

I am confident that a full and fair review will show that the new rules, developed through an extensive public process, reflect the highest standards of science-based public policy.

I also think a fair review will show the rules are needed to protect the roadless areas—areas that are valuable for wildlife, support ecosystem health and the full range of native species, serve as important sources of clean water, and provide a bulwark against the spread of invasive species such as many of the weeds that plague Colorado's ranchers.

Meanwhile, there have been some press reports suggesting that Congress might be asked to overturn the rules through legislation.

I hope those reports are wrong. I do not think that is what we in Congress should be doing. In fact, I think we should move to strengthen, not weaken, the protection of the roadless parts of our forests.

That is why I am today introducing a bill that would provide additional legal protections to roadless lands in the portion of the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest within Colorado's Second Congressional District.

My bill, the "Northern Front Range Roadless Area Protection Act," would require the Forest Service to manage over 80,000 acres on the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest as "protected roadless areas." These lands—all within the Congressional District I represent—are areas that the Forest Service identified as roadless in its 1997 Revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan for the Arapaho-Roosevelt, and will be covered by the new roadless-area rules when those rules take effect. Further, most if not all of these areas would be appropriate additions to existing wilderness areas.

The Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest is within a few minutes' drive for more than 2.5 million people in the Front Range Denver-Boulder metro area. It is experiencing increasing use of all kinds, especially recreational use. So, at least with respect to some of its most valuable lands, I want to undergird the new Forest Service rules with a statutory requirement to protect the special qualities of these areas.

Under the bill, these roadless areas would be managed under the "recommended for wilderness" management category in the existing Forest Plan until Congress decides otherwise. The bill would also require the Forest Service to study and evaluate these areas and make recommendations to Congress regarding their future management. That report would be submitted within three years. The bill will thus allow the Congress the opportunity to ultimately resolve the status of these roadless lands.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is limited in scope and deals only with some of the lands in Colorado that need legislative protection. More will need to be done to respond to the pressures of growth on our national forests and other public lands. But I think it represents an important first step, and I will seek to work with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to have it enacted into law.

NORTHERN FRONT RANGE ROADLESS AREA PROTECTION ACT

SUMMARY

The bill would give interim protection to over 80,000 acres of roadless areas on the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in Colorado's 2d Congressional District

THE FOREST, ROADLESS AREAS, AND THE BILL

The Forest: The Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest includes more than 1.5 million acres along Colorado's northern Front Range. It surrounds Rocky Mountain National Park and contains a number of designated wilderness areas. It contains a wide range of ecosystems and topography including level grasslands and peaks rising over 14,000 feet. It includes the rugged part of the Continental Divide seen from the Denver-Boulder metro area. Because of its proximity to 2.5 million people, it is heavily used by the public, and provides vital watersheds.

Roadless Areas: The Forest Service's 1997 Revision of the management plan for the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest identified lands that qualify as roadless. The Clinton Administration developed new rules restricting certain activities in national forest roadless areas in order to protect their roadless character and other natural resource values. The Bush Administration has acted to postpone implementation of these rules in order to review their provisions. The bill would provide statutory interim protection to maintain the roadless quality of some Arapaho-Roosevelt roadless areas until Congress decides on their ultimate status.

What the bill does

Acreage Affected: The bill would apply to over 80,000 acres in 12 areas within the Second Congressional District (Boulder and Clear Creek Counties) that were identified as roadless in the 1997 forest plan. The bill would designate these areas as "protected roadless areas."

Management: The bill would require the Forest Service to manage these lands in accordance with the "recommended for wilderness" directive in the 1997 forest plan. This would: (a) prohibit timber harvesting; (b) prohibit motorized vehicles; (c) allow the location of "hard rock" minerals (gold, silver, etc.); (d) prohibit oil and gas leasing.

Grazing: The bill would specifically allow grazing to continue under existing laws.

Report: The bill would require the Forest Service to report to Congress in 3 years with their recommendations as to whether these lands should become wilderness areas or other land management status.

What the bill would not do: Designate New Wilderness Areas: The bill does not designate any wilderness areas.

Apply Forest-wide: The bill does not apply to the whole Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest only to specified roadless areas within the Second Congressional District.

Address James Peak: The bill does not include the James Peak Roadless Area.

HONORING ZENIA MUCHA'S SERVICE TO THE STATE OF NEW YORK

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor an outstanding public servant, a faithful adviser and a trusted friend.

For the past six years, Zenia Mucha has served as Communications Director and Senior Adviser to New York State Governor George Pataki. On Monday, February 12, friends and co-workers will gather at the Governor's Mansion in Albany, New York, to bid her a fond farewell as she begins her new duties as Senior Vice President for Communications with the ABC Broadcast Group.

Before joining Governor Pataki's staff, Zenia served for 14 years on the staff of U.S. Senator Alfonse D'Amato, first as a staff aid and, during his last six years of service, as Communications Director.

My own friendship with Zenia stretches back to her early days with Senator D'Amato. Like so many others, not only was I impressed by her knowledge and ability, but on countless occasions, benefited as well from her advice and counsel.

In a recent column in the New York Post, writer Cindy Adams captured Zenia's personality as well as I have ever seen in print. "She's sassy. She's brassy. She's tough. She tells it like it is. She's loyal as hell. She's brilliant."

Mr. Speaker, I know how deeply Zenia's leadership and ability will be missed in New York's Capitol, and I ask that this House of Representatives join me in thanking Zenia Mucha for her leadership and service to New York state, and that this Congress join me in extending its sincerest best wishes for her continued success.

PAYROLL TAX CREDIT

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I introduced legislation yesterday to provide much needed tax relief to America's working men and women. Unlike other proposals currently under consideration, my bill would offer fair, across-the-board tax relief while providing a stimulus to the economy, without risking a return to the budget deficits of the 1980's and 90's.

In this period of substantial budget surpluses, most of us agree that Americans deserve a break in their taxes, but we are divided on the best way to accomplish this. President Bush has proposed a \$2 trillion package of tax cuts, the centerpiece of which is a reduction in income tax rates. Unfortunately, this proposal is flawed in two important ways: first, it relies on almost all of the Congressional Budget Office's recent forecast of an on-budget surplus of \$2.7 trillion over ten years, an amount that is by no means guaranteed. Second, the great majority of the tax relief would go to the wealthiest Americans.

The Bush proposal is not the only way to implement an across-the-board tax cut. The legislation I have introduced would provide tax relief to all working Americans in the form of a tax credit based on the amount paid in Social Security and Medicare payroll taxes, up to \$300 per individual and \$600 per couple filing jointly. At a cost of approximately \$40 billion per year, this credit would mean tax relief for each and every American who pays into Social Security and Medicare, but would not tie up the entire expected surplus. If for some reason the surplus does not meet current projections a few years down the road, we will not face a sudden deficit. In addition, there will be enough left over for other top priorities such as creating a prescription drug benefit under Medicare and improving America's schools.

Importantly, this proposal will benefit the three-quarters of Americans who pay more in

payroll taxes than in income tax. Unlike the Bush proposal, in which the top five percent of Americans would receive fifty percent of the tax cut, my bill will offer everyone who currently pays into Social Security and Medicare a credit of up to \$300, even if they owe no income tax. The worker at the bottom of the income scale will receive the same dollar credit as the highest-paid CEO. Of course, \$300 means much more to someone making the minimum wage.

Much has been said recently about the need for an across-the-board tax cut to stimulate the economy. Experts agree that the best way to do this is to put more money immediately in the hands of those who will pump it back into the economy. A \$2 trillion tax cut for the wealthy that provides only \$21 billion in relief in the first year will not accomplish this goal. A refundable payroll tax credit, which does not exclude lower- and middle-income workers, is what our country needs. I urge my colleagues to support this common-sense proposal.

TRIBUTE TO MARY COZZOLINO

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise today in recognition of Mary Cozzolino and her ongoing dedication to serving the growing needs of families in Central New Jersey. I applaud the achievements she has made working to address the diverse needs of a growing community.

Recently, Mary was elevated from Deputy Mayor to Mayor of Manalapan; thus becoming the youngest female ever elected to public office in New Jersey, as well as the youngest elected official in Monmouth County.

Mary became involved in Manalapan politics when she noticed that the township's leadership had become complacent and developers were being treated better than the residents. Mary was dedicated to bringing a different kind of politics to Manalapan, a politics where people mattered and the interests of the public are paramount.

Mary currently serves as vice-chair of the Young Dems of Monmouth County. In this capacity she works to elevate the interests of young people to actively participate in politics. Speaking at various youth forums throughout New Jersey, Mary highlights the importance for young people to begin shaping public debate on issues of concern.

Mary has worked in varying capacities on a wide range of public interest issues. She has served as the Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors for the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group (NJPIRG). Mary has also served as a Campaign Organizer for NJPIRG and she even spent some time working in Washington to address national issues with the United States Public Interest Research Group.

Once again, I applaud the efforts of Mayor Mary Cozzolino and ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing her steadfast commitment to serving our community.

TRIBUTE TO DIANA S. CLARK

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Diana S. Clark, former President of the Dallas chapter of the League of Women Voters, the Texas League of Women Voters and recipient of the Myrtle Bales Bulkley Award for her years of exceptional service. Mrs. Clark passed away on January 16, 2001 at the age of 71.

Although not a native Texan, Mrs. Clark provided meaningful and significant service to Texas and its people. She began her extensive community service in 1965 and served on boards and commissions including the Waters Resources Council, the Texas Adult Probation Commission, Women's issues network, the Older Women's League and the Dallas Alliance. She was a founding member of the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center League. For twenty years, she was a volunteer mediator with the Dispute Mediation Service. During her tenure, she mediated civil matters and served as President and a member of the board.

She also served on the advisory board for the Judicial Advisory Council of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and was appointed to the Commission of Judicial Efficiency. Although not a lawyer, the Dallas Young Lawyers Association honored her with its Dallas Liberty Bell Award, which is presented annually to a nonlawyer who has made the most selfless contribution to strengthen the effectiveness of the American system of justice.

I served on several volunteer organizations with Mrs. Clark. Because I knew her and her work well, I am deeply saddened that Texas has lost a veteran community leader. I ask the House to join me in remembering and paying tribute to Diana Clark, a great advocate.

TRIBUTE TO ALAN CRANSTON

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, Alan Cranston, who died at the age of eighty-six on December 31, 2000, represented California in the United States Senate from 1969 until 1993. In addition to a distinguished political career, Alan was an accomplished writer and journalist, businessman, international advisor, and leader in the movement to eliminate nuclear weapons.

Alan was effective in everything he pursued because he had the intelligence to understand conceptual complexities and the pragmatism to achieve what he wanted. He and Pat Brown rejuvenated the California Democratic Party and led it to power in 1958. My own experience with Alan goes back to 1960 when I was a student at UCLA and he was a model for young Democrats to follow. We were both active in the California Democratic Council, a grassroots party organization, and I was grateful for the personal support he gave me a number of years later when I decided to run for public office.

I learned from Alan that the enactment of good legislation could not be accomplished without attracting good people to our party. He was a visionary in knowing how to help build a party to lead California, but he also worked hard on the everyday nuts and bolts decisions that would make it happen. He brought the same skills to the U.S. Senate in 1968. He was a visionary in shaping the debate on great issues—the Vietnam War, nuclear proliferation, the rights of the disabled, medical care for veterans—and he served as the Majority Whip for fourteen years. He was a consummate vote counter and leadership strategist, and he had a hand in crafting and moving some of the most important legislation enacted while he served.

Lance Murrow once said, "Leaders make things possible. Great leaders make them inevitable." By every estimation, Alan Cranston was a great leader.

COMMENDING FEDERAL JUDGE J. ROBERT ELLIOTT UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, the lives of some public men are like sandy riverbanks. They are swept molded and sometimes even swept away by the swirling currents of popular passion and trendy opinion.

Others are like breakwaters. Their lives are built on principles that keep them steadily in place even in the face of such a torrent.

U.S. Judge J. Robert Elliott is just such a man. He retired this December at age 91 from the U.S. Federal Court in Columbus making him the longest-serving judge in the Federal Courts' history. During this long career, he was faced with many difficult and politically charged cases ranging from civil rights, to the My Lai Massacre in Vietnam, and more recently, protest marches at the School of the Americas.

Judge Elliott is the son of a Methodist preacher and began developing those solid principles at his father's knee. They continued to be molded during the depths of Great Depression as he first worked as a teacher and then later as he attended and was a graduate from Emory University Law School. Through it all he developed a profound respect for the absolute necessity of distinguishing between right and wrong, the value of hard work, the importance of common sense, and the indispensable nature of the rule of law in a free society.

These principles continued to serve him after he was appointed as a Federal judge. Judge Elliott worked 51 weeks a year for almost four decades on the bench. He did all of his own research and writing, unlike many other Federal judges who rely on law clerks.

He ruled his courtroom with common sense as well as a dry sense of humor. The Columbus Ledger Enquirer recounts that an attorney once approached the bench to whisper: "Your honor, one of the jurors is asleep."

"It seems so," Judge Elliott replied.

"Aren't you going to wake him up?" the lawyer asked.

"You put him to sleep—you wake him up," Judge Elliott responded.